

ARMENIA MUST BE MADE STABLE, TURKS ARE TOLD

Powers Determined Not to Abandon Their Obligation, Says Earl Curzon.

FRENCH USE PRESSURE

Withdrawal From Cilicia Intended to Safeguard Interests of Armenians.

GREEKS AWAIT ANSWER

Speculation Is That Financial Assistance Will Be Extended to Athens.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—While the Near East Conference has made no real progress toward reconciling the Turkish and Greek viewpoints on Smyrna and Thrace, a special committee decided to submit formal proposals to the Supreme Council regarding the possible modification of the Kurdish and Armenian clauses of the treaty of Sevres. Both Turks and Armenians were heard by the committee on the subject of Turkish Armenia and Kurdistan. The Armenians asked for recognition of their full independence.

When the Turks met the committee in the afternoon Earl Curzon explained that the French had not the intention of abandoning their obligation to constitute a united and stable Armenia. He emphasized the need of delimiting a frontier acceptable to all parties and providing a secure national existence for Armenia.

M. Berthelot, in behalf of the French delegation, reaffirmed the intention of the French when withdrawing from the military occupation of Cilicia to make provisions safeguarding the interests of the Armenians there.

Greek delegates are still awaiting a reply from Athens regarding the request for a commission to investigate the situation relative to Greek and Turkish claims in Smyrna and Thrace. Belief was expressed here that inducements, such as early withdrawal of troops and financial assistance, had been offered them. The proposal of the Turkish Nationalists to negotiate separately with France has not yet been answered by the Paris Government.

Foreign Minister Stora of Italy is credited with the success attending the Allies' efforts to impress the Turks with the necessity of moderating their demands. He bluntly told them that in view of the proposed investigation they must refrain from raising greater difficulties on other points.

The conference was relegated to a recess on Wednesday in today's newspapers, prominence being given to the fighting yesterday at Macroom, Ireland, and the Government's narrow escape from defeat yesterday in the House of Commons, where it won by ten votes on a division called on the question of supplementary estimates for new public buildings.

BALFOUR TO DRAFT REPLY TO AMERICA

Council of the League to Act After Discussion.

By the Associated Press.
PARIS, Feb. 26.—The council of the League of Nations today approved the terms of a communique intended to clear up rumors that the reply to the American note on mandates had been referred to Mr. Balfour. The general terms of the reply, it was explained, had been considered in the council, but Mr. Balfour had been asked to make a draft only because he was more familiar with the subject than the other members. The communique reads:

"In order to set at rest certain rumors as to the reply of the council to the American note on mandates it may be stated that the council has not yet formally considered the terms of the reply. A preliminary discussion took place several days ago, when it was decided that the general lines brought out should be put together in a preliminary draft to be prepared by Mr. Balfour. This preliminary draft will be discussed by the council early next week."

It has been virtually decided that consideration of both the series "A" and the series "B" mandates will be postponed until later. Meanwhile the United States may, if it sees fit, send a representative to confer with the league council regarding the points at issue. The difficulty which presents itself lies in the series "C" mandate to Japan, including the island of Yap, which the United States has protested, this mandate having been decided upon by the Supreme Council.

It appears impossible for the council to take any action regarding the allotment of the Pacific islands under this series of mandates unless the allied governments consent to have the matter taken out of the hands of the Supreme Council.

Leon Bourgeois of France declared that Switzerland struck a great blow at the moral prestige of the league by refusing right of way across her territory to the league's forces which will insure order during the Vilna plebiscite.

Dr. Alphonsé Durrant, the Swiss Minister in Paris, had previously explained to the Council that, while Switzerland greatly regretted being obliged to refuse, still she could not grant the request without abandoning her neutrality. He pointed out that Poland and Lithuania, the parties to the dispute, had not agreed upon the conditions of the plebiscite arrangements and there was the gravest menace of hostile Bolshevik action.

M. Bourgeois admitted the difficulties of the Swiss situation, but expressed the opinion that it was the council's duty to decide when the requisite conditions had been fulfilled, instead of a member deciding for itself. He added that membership in the league imposed obligations as well as conferred rights, and hoped the Swiss representative would convey to his Government the assurance that the council understood the difficulties, but kindly felt the prejudice caused the league by its refusal.

M. Bourgeois suggested that when the Swiss Federal Council reconsidered the matter in the light of his remarks the council on the relations between Switzerland and the League of Nations would be dissipated. The council adjourned final discussion of the matter until next week.

M. Bourgeois then reverted to the request of the free city of Danzig for authorization to manufacture 50,000 rifles for the Polish Government. The council approved the recommendation by Viscount Ishii, Japan, that the request be refused.

One of the snags already has been met in the Senate Judiciary Committee, which has one of the prohibition enforcement bills. Senator Burlingame has announced that there are not now enough votes in the committee to report the bill. The opposition has caused the leaders to call a conference of Republican Senators for Monday night and it may be necessary to bind the majority by a caucus.

After the rebuff given him by the refusal of the Administration leaders to accept his ideas on prohibition Anderson has Assemblyman J. C. McLaughlin in a bill containing all the provisions sought by the Anti-Saloon League. Legislators who have studied it declare that it reverses the old English idea of justice, that it is a bill until proven guilty. Under the Slacker Bill a man could be dragged to jail if he was even suspected of violating the law.

ITALIAN PEASANTS CLASH OVER DEMANDS FOR LAND

Socialists Inflaming Non-Landowners Over Refusal to Grant Promised Concessions—Many Wounded as Revolvers and Grenades Are Used.

ROME, Feb. 26.—The situation in the Province of Bari is very grave as a result of the clashes between Socialists and members of the Fascist, or extreme Nationalist party, and the struggle between the classes is assuming a dangerous aspect, says a despatch from Bari to the Ministerial newspaper. The town of Minervino Murge may be considered a prey to civil war, according to the despatch, and armed bands continue to overrun the countryside, where bloody encounters between the Fascist and Socialist are occurring. At Terlizzi the Socialists attempted to storm an agrarian club which was the center of the landowners. The police fired, wounding some soldiers. Similar incidents occurred in Putignano and Noce.

At Conversano a dozen persons were wounded, three of them seriously, including the Fascist leader, who later died. There was also fighting between the Socialists and Fascist, in which grenades and revolvers were employed.

"The situation in Bari is not entirely the fault of the peasants," says the *Tempo*, "but is largely due to the refusal of the land owners to make promised concessions following the war. Only 11 per cent of the entire population possess land, the remainder being agricultural laborers. The Socialists, profiting by the peasants' disappointment, started an incendiarious propaganda of hatred against the exploiting bourgeoisie."

Landowners in the province, the newspaper adds, were apathetic and did not improve the peasants' conditions, and they refused to grant the manifesto in which they listed their names as entitled to occupy the best houses and richest lands. They then invaded the farms and country houses, singing Socialist songs. The Fascist alone offered resistance.

Applying their programme, "A tooth for a tooth," the extreme Nationalists began a campaign of violence, which led to the killing of a Fascist leader, a Communist, who became divided at the Leghorn conference.

ARTILLERY IS USED IN MOSCOW STRIKE

Machine Guns Heard in Suburb as 14,000 Join Walkout.

RIA, Latvia, Feb. 26.—Artillery and machine gun firing in Novonikolov, a suburb of Moscow, in connection with the strike begun Thursday by 14,000 employees of the Government works and various industries, is reported by a despatch from Moscow to-day. During the night shooting continued on Tver street in Moscow, the despatch says.

Secret service reports are progressively suppressing the strike movement, according to the despatch, which adds that no change in the Government is expected.

A Riga despatch of Friday said that during the disorders in Moscow following the calling of the strike troops were called out to disperse the men, killing or wounding several of them. The strikers are demanding an increased bread ration, convocation of a constituent assembly and the right of free trade.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Details of the recent mutiny of Soviet sailors at Kronstadt, says the Central News Helsingborg, were received here to-day. The sailors, who are reported to have participated in the revolt and murdered a number of commissaries.

Soviet troops sent against the mutineers were unable to cope with them, the correspondent declares, and the Government is trying to reach a peaceful agreement with the seamen.

TIFLIS AGAIN SEIZED BY SOVIET TROOPS

Georgians Establish Capital 150 Miles Away.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 26.—Tiflis, capital of the Republic of Georgia, is again in the hands of the Bolsheviks, according to reports received here to-day. The Soviet forces, which were reported in recent advices to have occupied the Tiflis arsenal, but were later expelled by the Georgians, are now said to be reentering the city.

PARIS, Feb. 26.—Announcement that the Georgian forces had evacuated Tiflis was made by the French Foreign Office this afternoon.

A revolutionary committee has been formed at Tiflis, the Foreign Office has been informed, and the Georgian Government has been installed at Kutais, 150 miles northwest of Tiflis.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Fighting between Georgian and Armenian troops in the Borchali district, between the two republics, appears to have terminated for the time being, says a Constantinople despatch to the London Times. The Armenians are holding the Borchali territory, title to which was contested by the two nations.

Russian Bolshevik attacks on Tiflis, the capital of the Republic of Georgia, have been checked, the despatch states. M. Chitcherine, Russian Bolshevik Foreign Minister, is reported to have offered his friendly offices with a view to arranging a settlement between Armenia and Georgia.

SOVIET TRADE ENVOY IN CONSTANTINOPLE

Says Ludwig Martens Is to Return to America.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 26.—Carrying a passport with a British visa granted at Tiflis, Bronislau Kondish, a commercial delegate from Moscow, arrived in Constantinople to-day. He stated that he represented the Russian Cooperative Trade Associations for Turkey and the Balkans, with full powers to grant permits for imports into Russia.

M. Kondish asserted that Ludwig C. A. Martens, the Soviet representative recently deported from the United States, would soon return to that country, and also that a Soviet diplomatic envoy to Constantinople, M. Kousnietzov, was expected to arrive here in the near future.

Charles Roach, counsel for Martens, yesterday said he had no official or personal knowledge that Martens planned to return to this country, as asserted by Bronislau Kondish, commercial delegate from Moscow, who had just arrived in Constantinople.

STATUS OF MARTENS DEMANDED BY SENATE
Palmer Asked if Deported Man Can Return.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
Washington, D. C., Feb. 26.

A resolution offered by Senator Moses (N. H.) calling on the Attorney-General to furnish the Senate an opinion as to the effect of the cancellation of the deportation warrant against L. C. A. Martens and to furnish a transcript of the evidence was unanimously adopted by the Senate to-day without debate.

As introduced the measure did not call for the evidence, but a proviso to this effect was accepted on the suggestion of Senator Reed (Mo.).

Senator Moses explained his reason for proposing the resolution in the light of the Russian embassy here, the Secretary said, although some part of the funds was used for that purpose.

LOYD GEORGE SITS TIGHT AMID TIDE OF RISING SPLEEN

Fortifies Himself When Assailed on All Sides by Momentous Problems.

COALITION'S BIG TEST

Premier Hopes to Wipe Out Sinn Fein Before Horrors Rouse Public.

NO BRITON TO MATCH HIM

Likely to Prove One Statesman Who Survives War and Reconstruction.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau.

There can be no doubt that a tide of spleen is mounting against Premier Lloyd George, and there is equally no doubt that this tide will not be effective against him until Great Britain answers the question: What better man is available to head the Government?

This week was marked by a new phase of the fight against the Coalition Government, with the acquisition by the Opposition of two most important "Intellectuals"—the Archbishop of Canterbury and Earl Grey. If Earl Grey's health only permitted his entry into the political hurly burly it is evident that there is a place for him in popular, as well as in political, opinion. But with the single exception of Earl Grey there is no Briton who is Mr. Lloyd George's parliamentary equal or who possesses Mr. Lloyd George's authoritative voice.

Just as it was the Irish issue and the promised settlement of it that Mr. Lloyd George forced on the Coalition a year ago, so it is Ireland upon which the Coalition may be broken. When the Sinn Fein did not and it possible to come to common ground with the Premier last July—a time when even Ulster might have been induced to negotiate—Mr. Lloyd George determined to force through his own home rule bill and to root out the Sinn Fein, whatever the cost might be.

Control Gained by Sinn Fein.
July and August was a time when "the King's writ didn't run in Ireland." The Sinn Fein had undoubted control of the island and the Government resigned reason to disbelieve the statement made at that time that Eamon de Valera, President of the "Irish Republic," recognized this fact, too, and wrote a letter to Dublin urging a settlement along the lines of dominion home rule. The Sinn Fein adherents on the spot, however, misjudged the situation, hoping for American interference, and did not believe England would ever dare take such desperate means as were necessary to break up the Irish Republican organization, which extended all the way from the courts to the village pond.

Premier Lloyd George took up the challenge. It did require desperate means. Indeed, the means adopted were as desperate as Sir Hamar Greenwood, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and his officers are now squirming uncomfortably under the atrocious charges against the "Black and Tans" and auxiliaries, so far famed for their courage, with the result that Earl Grey accepts as truth the declaration that the British Constitution is being disregarded and the Archbishop of Canterbury says the same of common Christianity.

The man in the street also believes the charge that the "Black and Tans" have committed atrocities in Ireland, but he does not look on the Irish situation with either Earl Grey or the Archbishop of Canterbury's sensitive ability to distinguish things clearly. And it is here that the Sinn Fein's own violence spoils the chances of the ordinary citizen to see things as Earl Grey or the Archbishop of Canterbury sees them. Indeed, the man in the street so far is content to believe that the reprisals, however horrible they may have been, were justified by the Sinn Fein murders.

This represents the desperate game Premier Lloyd George and the Sinn Fein are playing at this moment. Premier Lloyd George believes he can wipe out the Sinn Fein before the British public is aroused to the horror of the methods employed. The Sinn Fein believes that the horror will prevent the Government pushing its policy through to the bitter end.

It is reported here that the Sinn Fein are now willing to accept the dominion home rule they would not take last July, but the Premier is no longer willing to grant that now. He calls attention to the fact that the third party in Ireland, Ulster, has already accepted a settlement. It is a fact that Ulster exercises at this moment a particularly sinister veto power in Irish affairs. Ulster believes with Premier Lloyd George that they can "lick" the Sinn Fein.

Northcliffe Opens New Batteries.
In addition to the denunciations of the Government's Irish policy by Earl Grey and the Archbishop of Canterbury, this week's incidents, particularly the reinstatement of the cadets implicated in the shooting of the British soldiers, aroused Lord Northcliffe's newspapers to use the conditions obtaining in Ireland against the Government, something they have never done outright before.

The British press, expressing the popular attitude rather than supporting the Government, has, with two or three exceptions such as the *Manchester Guardian* and the *Times*, been unusually printed much less Irish news than have the American country daily newspapers. The attracting of the attention of men like Lord Northcliffe to the Irish situation is the greatest publicity that Ireland is at present able to receive because the attention these men command, may mean just the fillip that will overturn the Coalition.

It is notable that the present growth of the Opposition comes as much from Tory as from Liberal ranks. But it will have to continue to grow until it can supply an alternative policy and an alternative man to the Lloyd George policy, and the Premier.

The economic situation is next mentioned. There is little disposition to question the attitude of the Government regarding German indemnity, but when once the indemnity is settled Premier Lloyd George will have to deal with the most difficult problems of his career—how to collect the indemnity without injuring British industry.

No man here questions Premier Lloyd George's herculean efforts in helping to win the war. However, many persons now question the methods by which he has enfolded his old labor friends into backing the Government, and the production of living which Labor is now endeavoring to collect. Labor may at any time precipitate an internal industrial crisis that will involve the Government, and yet so powerful is the Lloyd George Coalition machine that no observer will predict whether the new Government would go to the right or to the left.

Grand Test Coming in June.
All these questions, however, probably are subsidiary to the great test that will come at the time of the conference of the Prime Ministers of the empire here in June. In the light of the new conception of the British Empire, in which the self-governing dominions appear as equal partners with the mother country, Premier Lloyd George will be examined to see whether in fact he is a Tory or a Liberal. But even there the conference would have to determine whether the future course of the British Empire was to be Tory or Liberal; and Premier Lloyd George's position will be one in which he will be able to climb aboard whichever band wagon then seems most sure to draw the crowd.

Therefore, if the empire conference can prove a better man than Premier Lloyd George, he probably will go down in history as the single statesman who survived politically both the war and reconstruction.

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No part of the funds was set apart by the United States for the payment of the Russian debt, the Secretary said, although some part of the funds was used for that purpose.

MACROOM AMBUSH DETAILS ARE SCANT

Royal Fusiliers Kill Two in Pursuit and Then Abandon Boggy Marsh.

COUNTRY WILDLY DENSE
Sinn Fein Issues Murder List.
Mostly of Men Refusing to Halt or Evading Arrest.

PANAMA ASKS U. S. TO RETURN SEIZED RIFLES

Needs Them to Repel Invading Costa Ricans.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Immediate return of several thousand rifles seized in 1916 by the American authorities in the Panama Canal Zone is asked by the Government of Panama, which desires to use them in repelling the reported invasion of Panama by Costa Ricans.

The request, according to advices received to-day by J. E. Lefevre, Charge of the Panama legation, is contained in a formal note handed to William Jennings Bryan, American Minister at Panama City, for transmission to the State Department.

Ricardo J. Alvarado, Foreign Minister of Panama, who is in Washington, advised that, as stated in press despatches, the arms had been returned to their owners. He said the rifles had been collected and held by American authorities in 1916, when a bitterly contested national election seemed to foreshadow an armed struggle between political factions.

Officials of the State Department began to-night consideration of steps to be taken in case it should be necessary to attempt to avert war between Panama and Costa Rica. The obvious remedy offered of landing American troops to avert a clash was dismissed by those who believed both governments could be induced to listen to friendly counsel and, if not, to a stern warning that they said the Department was prepared to issue if it should be necessary. It was regarded as probable that identical messages would be sent to both capitals.

The request of the Panama Government for aid in recovering the guns surrendered many years ago to the United States authorities cannot be complied with, it was said, for the reason that they long ago were disposed of and the money returned to Panama. The United States, it was also said, was not eager to assist in arming the Panamanians, since to do so would enable them to bring about the precise situation the Department is anxious to avert.

Regardless of the territorial rights involved, the chief concern here is the continued peace of all territory adjacent to the Panama Canal.

Should the situation reach such a pass as to endanger American lives and property action might be taken to the extent of ordering the special Latin American security squadron to Panama.

D. S. C. GIVEN DR. GARFIELD.
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PANAMA NEAR WAR WITH COSTA RICA

Continued from First Page.

While it was stated in official circles here last night that Panama was much disturbed over the arms situation, the Government had determined to settle with Costa Rica without intervention by the United States, and would purchase sufficient arms from private munitions concerns if they were not available elsewhere.

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